

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend Claims 1-34 as shown below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the international application.

1. *(currently amended)* A method of deactivating a touch screen lock in a portable electronic device comprising a touch screen and means for locking the touch screen, ~~characterized by the method comprising:~~

detecting (208) touches on predetermined contact areas on the touch screen in a given order during touch screen lock; and

deactivating (210) the touch screen lock once said touches on the predetermined contact areas are detected.

2. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by the method further comprising~~ reducing the size of the predetermined contact areas when a touch on a predetermined contact area fails.

3. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized by the method comprising~~ reducing the size of the predetermined contact areas by at least 25 percent.

4. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by the method further comprising~~ detecting (202) a touch on a predetermined reset area on the touch screen during touch screen lock, and entering (204) touch screen lock deactivation state based on the touch on the reset area.

5. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized by the method comprising~~ exiting the touch screen lock deactivation state when the touch on the predetermined contact area fails.

6. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized by the~~ method comprising exiting the touch screen lock deactivation state when no touch on the contact area on the touch screen is detected within a predetermined period of time.

7. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by the~~ method further comprising detecting a touch on the reset area after a touch on the predetermined contact areas.

8. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized by the~~ method comprising accepting the deactivation of the touch screen lock based on the detection of a touch on the predetermined contact areas and a touch on the reset area.

9. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by the~~ method further comprising detecting a touch on the predetermined contact areas of the touch screen when the touch on the contact area continues for a predetermined period of time.

10. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by the~~ method further comprising entering (218) the device lock state when the touch on the contact areas occurs in a non-(?) predetermined manner a predetermined number of times in succession.

11. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by the~~ method further comprising issuing a signal when a touch on a predetermined contact area is detected.

12. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 11, ~~characterized by~~ wherein said signal ~~being~~ is a sound, light or vibration signal.

13. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by the~~ method further comprising deactivating the touch screen lock when a touch on said predetermined contact areas is detected during predetermined timeslots.

14. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized by the~~ method comprising playing a predetermined sound during the touch screen lock to facilitate remembering the predetermined timeslots.

15. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by the~~ method further comprising displaying one or more predetermined background images, animations or multimedia presentations on the touch screen during touch screen lock in order to facilitate remembering the predetermined contact areas.

16. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized by the~~ method further comprising specifying, in user profiles, the contact areas based on whose touching the touch screen lock is deactivated.

17. *(currently amended)* A method as claimed in claim 16, ~~characterized by~~ wherein the contact areas defined in the user profile for deactivating the touch screen lock ~~being~~ are different in different user profiles.

18. *(currently amended)* A portable electronic device comprising a touch screen (106) and means (100, 106, 112) for locking the touch screen, ~~characterized in that~~ the device comprising means (100, 106) for:

detecting touches on predetermined contact areas on the touch screen in a given order during touch screen lock; and

deactivating the touch screen lock once said touches on the predetermined contact areas are detected.

19. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for reducing the size of the predetermined contact areas when a touch on a predetermined contact area fails.

20. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for reducing the size of the predetermined contact areas by at least 25 percent.

21. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for detecting a touch on a predetermined reset area on the touch screen during touch screen lock, and entering a touch screen lock deactivation state based on the touch on the reset area.

22. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for exiting the touch screen lock deactivation state when a touch on the predetermined contact area fails.

23. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 21, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for exiting the touch screen lock deactivation state when no touch on the contact area on the touch screen is detected within a predetermined period of time after a touch on the reset area.

24. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for detecting a touch on the reset area after a touch on the predetermined contact areas.

25. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 24, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for accepting the deactivation of the touch screen lock based on a touch on the predetermined contact areas and a touch on the reset area.

26. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein in the device comprises means (100, 106) for detecting a touch on the predetermined contact areas of the touch screen when the touch on the contact area continues for a predetermined period of time.

27. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for entering a terminal lock state when a touch on the contact areas occurs in a non-predetermined manner a predetermined number of times in succession.

28. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that it~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106, 114) for issuing a signal when a touch on a predetermined contact area is detected.

29. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 28, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said signal is a sound, light or vibration signal.

30. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for deactivating the touch screen lock when touches on said predetermined contact areas are detected during predetermined timeslots.

31. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 30, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106, 114) for playing a predetermined sound during the touch screen lock to facilitate remembering the predetermined timeslots.

32. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the device comprises means (100, 106, 108, 110) for displaying one or more predetermined background images, animations or multimedia presentations on the touch screen during touch screen lock in order to facilitate remembering the predetermined contact areas.

33. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 18, ~~characterized in that it~~  
wherein the device comprises means (100, 106) for specifying, in user profiles, the contact  
areas based on whose touching the touch screen lock is deactivated.

34. *(currently amended)* A device as claimed in claim 33, ~~characterized in that~~  
wherein the contact areas defined in the user profile for deactivating the touch screen lock are  
different in different user profiles.